

COGGESHALL, WILLIAM T.

DRAWER 10C

CONTEMPORARIES

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Abraham Lincoln's Contemporaries

William T. Coggeshall

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

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Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection





Diary

Kept by Mrs. D. Coggeshall

as Military Sec'y to Gov. Fenimore

— Columbus Ohio —

1861-2

— J —

Friday April 13th 61

War news - Rumor of firing upon Fort Sumter. General excitement in City. Adj't Gen. Connington lectured last night on war resources of the Country.

Sunday April 14th

City full of rumors of war. Sympathisers with secession report that Sumter had surrendered. Mass of people very decided that at whatever cost or sacrifice the Government must be sustained.

Monday 15th

War feeling intense. Bill in Senate arming & equipping Militia. Proclamation by the Governor. Feeling deep. Determination to maintain Government decided. Service very in expectation.

Copy 1267
Tuesday 16th

Debate in Senate. Democrats denounced abolitionists as outlaws of the world. Key for Senate vote. Cox and Canfield on Union side led debate. War bill passed. Senator Knowlton of Portsmouth alone voting nay. When reported in House much excitement. Refused to suspend rules. Democrats opposed. Intensity of war feeling deepening.

17th

Note New York Tribune on loyalty of Ohio. The people now thoroughly aroused. Democrats falling into line. Maj. Anderson somewhat suspected on account of reported conduct at Sumter.

Public Meeting for the Union.

18th

Note N.Y. Tribune. Camp Jackson (Goodale Park) occupied. Soldiers encamped in State House. Martial music in rotunda. Drilling on the streets. Anderson now endorsed. Flags, Union Cockades &c everywhere displayed. Million bill passed.

Friday, April 19th

Much excitement in Cif. Governor's office headquarters. Thronged with leading men from all parts of state, Consulting about raising organization of troops. Visited Camp Jackson with wife & sisters. Reports attacks at Baltimore and Washington increased excitement to-day.

20th

A band of martial music accompanying soldiers reporting for duty, opened Legislature. Tribune rec'd to-day. Continued letter.

Sunday 21st

Visited Camp Jackson: Hundreds of people watching soldiers. Troops drilling. In time of war no Sundays. Anson Smyth & Rev Grammar delivered sermons at Camp. Scene novel & interesting.

22^d

Wrote Tribune 3^d letter. Rumors of war at Baltimore. Have been requested by Gov. to render assistance in his office.

Tuesday 23^d

Appointed Military Secretary to Gov. Dennison.
Took position, to be Confidential, in office. Given
Charge telegraphing for War Dept's and Confidential
Correspondence. Geo. B. Mc Clellan V. P. Ohio Ill. R. R.
appointed Maj Gen. O. V. M. Gov. determined to
oversee transportation of arms through Ohio for
points in rebel states.

24th

Gov. has proposition from Kentucky for interview
to consider means of pacification, Govs. Morton of
Ind. & Yates of Ill. invited. Letter sent Civ. about
stoppage of arms. Earnest remonstrances rec'd.
War Council. Mc Clellan, Dennison, Cox
Swayne.

25th

Mogoffin proposition for Council accepted, Pub.
Meeting in Civ. Excitement on the whole Southern
border subdued. Soldiers encamped in all parts
of the city. Legislative Halls, Rotunda, Library -
State House grounds, Asylums full. 1st night
troops admitted to Library; Companies from Hillsboro
given permission by Gov. Prayer Meetings in Rotunda.

Friday - April 26th

Telegram from Chase on Ohio Contingent. Committee of 13 from Cincinnati. Question discussed will Gov. blockade Kentucky? Aaron F. Perry went to Wash. D.C.

27th

Gen. McClellan selected ground near Millford for permanent camp. (or Monroeville) Camp Dennison name. W.S. Rosecrans Cin. ordered to lay it out. Troops ordered there Monday. Brig Gen. Cox. Swayne & others in conference with Governor.

28th

Letters to Mayor of Cin. Tennessee denied provisions. Conference with Swayne & others. Visited Camp Jackson.

29th

Conference of Govs of Ohio, Ind. N.Y. Penn. Wis. & Mich. invited at Cleveland. Swayne went to Cin. Julius J. Wood to Harrisburg. News of a new organization for troops. Anxious Monroeville for appointments to military positions. Cipher to Chase. Gov. Curtin telegraphed Govt had made additional requisition on Penn.

Presday April 30th

Council in Cin. Swoyne for Ohio, Moggoffin Ky.
Montom Ind. Governor in secret Council at
Camp Dennison. Much interest about important
movements expected. Moggoffin failed to keep Cin.
appointment.

May 1st 1861 -

Gov. returned. Determined to be relieved of embar-
assments as to conflicts of authority between State & U.S.
officers. He telegraphed Chase to urge Pres't to
take all troops offered. Blakeslee of House offered
Res. about Contracts. Sen. J. M. Key has been to
Kentucky on a Confidential Mission. Notice
in Cin. papers.

2^d

Uneasiness on border. Telegraphed Washth about
Ohio Regts. Letters from Chase that he is forwar-
ning for backdown. Gov. arranged meeting for
Cleveland. The movement is at his suggestion.
Swoyne's letter to Crittenden about Cin. Council.
Applications for Chaplains, Nurses, Surgeons
&c

Friday May 3^d

Protest of Wolcott against suspension of Gen
Hurl. Dennison & Mr Coffin Correspondence pub-
lished in Civ. Reports from Western Virginia that the
people are for the Union. Dennison at Cleve-
land. Yates not there. Unfavorable and dis-
agreeable reports from Camp Dennison.

May 4th

Gov. Curtin went from Cleveland to Wash^{gton} -;
N. H. Swayne and Jos. R. Swan with him. N. H. Penny
returned. Reports that no plan of operations is known
in Washington. A plan from Mr. Clellow for Western
Milit organization was presented. The Gov's at Cleve-
land were "called out". Popular feeling strong for
vigorous action.

Sunday May 5th

To day terms offered for rebels to disperse, sent
at Gov's office. Dispatches from Wash^{gton} but no information
about extra regts. Petitions for defence of
Southern Border referred to Mr. Clellow.

Monday May 5th

Affairs Systematic. J. M. Wood & Comissary Runyon assigned duty. C. P. Buckingham Called. Runyon requested to resign. Staff inadequate to duty imposed upon it: incompetent. Violent attacks in private and public on Gov. Acts & motives misrepresented. Determined to break Commisary Contracts in Columbus. Spent interview with Luther Bronwellson. Diplomacy with Magoffin. Letter, May 8 Hatch. Cin. Union effect. Active efforts to induce Govt to take Ohio Regts.

7th

Runyon resigned. Buckingham appointed. Cameron tel. 3 Regts to be taken. Legislative Annus. Gov. met Committee. Govt ordered embargo west. Messenger from Gov. Randall here on way to Wash^{nt}. Much excitement in Leg.

8th

Telegram from Swoyne Swan that policy of Cleveland Council would be adopted. McGoffin's message. Gov telegraphed M. Chellaw. Holcott to buy no more arms. Gen Govt. to protect border. Seward Regt bill passed.

Thursday May 9th

Sutkins giving trouble. Chase telegraphed to Regts would be accepted. Letter from Miss Dix about incendiaries. Mc Clellan Consulted. Clamor in City against Gov. D. not abated. Lies the order. General population Chief character.

May 10th

Gen Mc Clellan suggests Secret Service. States in fresh solicited to aid. Bills passed Leg. April telegraph bill #2545. Gov. wrote Sec. Com. in explanation of Morgan Contract. Note Burns about Commissioners. Surgeons examined. Doctors as intolerant as Spanish inquisition.

11th

Inspector bill passed. Swan & Swaine returned. Had interview with Gov. Six Regts for 3 years accepted. Chase urged it. Cameron consented. Camp Jackson to be broken up. Auditor Taylor preparing bills. Has charge milit. funds.

Sunday 12th

Quiet day. Weather wet. Surgeons appointed. Military board organized. Message on Missouri Volunteers. Book on Ohio in the war thought of. Telegram to Chase about Mc Clellan as Senior Major Gen. Chase letter and orders —

Monday May 13th

Dennison makes appeal for Missouri. Telegram to Virginia Convention. Mc Clellan diplomacy. Breaking up of Legislature. Dennison sends earnest message. Bills passed. School fund intact. I worked earnestly against any reduction of school revenue. Leading members of opposition party have fear that responsibility will sink the Governor & the party at next election.

14th

Chase secured nine Regts. Dennison, Wolcott & Swan with Mc Clellan at Cincinnati. Federal supremacy in connection with army discussed. Chase telegraphs that Mc Clellan is appointed Maj Gen. I began to-day to correspond with Cin papers, Gazette & Commercial.

15th

Wolcott went to Wheeling. Circular issued for three years troops. Evidence of Fed supremacy growing, but Ohio as a State must be respected & regarded - Dennison determined to get 22 Regts for 3 years accepted -

Thursday May 16th

Maj. Anderson in Columbus. Went to London on train with him. He is not impregnated with the great thought which agitates the public mind. He is only a Cool Soldier willing to do his duty. Holcott said says West Va. ought to be distrusted.

17-

A great misfortune that this has not in all dep'ts Officers who command respect: who are respectable and Competent in war as well as peace. Contraband law grows louder. Means as to 3 years Vols. felt on account of need of good officers. Holcott and Gen Cox submit address to Serrison. Cox author.

18

M^r Clellow urged to go to Wash^g. Simeon Nash writes in favor of West Va. Sullivan of Belleair visits M^r Clellow. Comps to be established at Monett - Serrison telegraphed Wash^g about Baltimore freight. Some fear that dispatches to Wash^g are miscommunication. More M^r Clellow diplomacy.

Sunday May 9th

Demand from Washth for 9 Regts. only for 3 years.
Gov. much disturbed. Swon, Swoyne & others
Called in Council. Swoyne & Wolcott sent to Washth.
News from West Va. alarming. Gov. S. determined to
urge 22 Regts for 3 years

20th

Cameron telegraphed that Ohio protests against
reduction of Contingent. Chase urged to protest.
Contrach Clamor more boisterous.

21st

Great Misfortune that men of good business quality
one not in chief staff positions of Gov. Wood
& Corrington ought to be in Continent cut off.
Also a misfortune that in so many Regts politicians
are elected Colonels &c.

22^d

Telegram from Swoyne M. that 21 Regts would be
taken. Mr. Chellow urged 21. Gov. relieved. Dispatches
sent asking report at Camps of men willing to
serve 3 years. Mr. Chellow suggests Conference
at Indianapolis.

May 23^d

Gov. at Indianapolis. Acceptance 21. Ry's
Confirmed. Scoundrels get Contracts because they
have money: have money because they are scoundrels.

24th

Interest manifested for 3 years service. Clomons continue
against Gov. Honest explanations are scouted.
People disregard what is well done & overlook unim-
proved Condition of Ohio when war declared.

30th

See day by day melancholy result of political in-
fluence in choice of men for military positions.

31st

M. Gen. Wood giving trouble because he always acts
as if under some imputation as to his honesty or his
Civility. The fact cannot be hid that the incompe-
tence of Adjt Gen. Cornington makes Denison re-
sponsible in public eye for much that feels clam-
or.

31st

My Correspondence in Cin. papers gives my items
which elucidate passing events -

Monday June 3^d

Suspicious on good grounds that the future will develop the fact that influences are at work at headquarters of the Dept of Ohio, to force men into permanent positions in the army, who will use their prominence for political measures.

4th

Had Conversation with Gov. about Chase & other public men. His Conviction is clear, in plain defiance of public misrepresentation, that just now he is the man to be Gov. of Ohio. His Confidence is firm that among the people his honor is undoubted.

5th

Declined invitations to deliver College addresses at Otterbein & Oberlin because duty in public service will not permit preparations.

6th

Question of organizing Regts out of State troops giving trouble. Rosecrans, Hargis, McCook, Whittles, Ryffe, Jones, Matthews, Granger, Gonfield urged for appointments.

Friday June 7th

Gov. went to Cin. to meet McClellan with men from Virginia, representing danger on the border opposite Kanawha Valley.

8th

Went with Conington to Bellaire, on freight train, en route for a visit to Ohio troops in Virginia.

9th

Went from Bellaire to Grafton, Lew. Wallace's Ind. Zouaves on train. Women spit at soldiers on the way. Ohio boys guarding railroad. Line safe. Ind. Zouaves went on to Cumberland. Visited Camps 15th & 16th near Grafton. Troops in good condition wherever under discipline. 15th watchfully demoralized. Officers lounging at Hotel. Met Whitelaw Reid, Correspondent Gazette. Visited Gen Kelley, wounded at Phillippi.

(with Gen Morris,

10th

Went to Phillippi, after breakfast, with Gen. Carrington Lieut. Sullivan. on horseback. Dined with Col. J. B. Steedman 14th Ohio Camp, Phillippi battlefield. Attended Military Council at Sumner's head quarters. Ohio troops compare well with Ind. Met Milroy. Steedman eager to advance. Detests Sumner.

~~Monday~~ June 11th

Returned last night to Grofton, on horseback, with the Cavalry escort. Pickets on hill sides. Left Grofton this morning for Pontsburg. Dined at Clontsburg where Conington had a reception. Visited rebuilt Bridges. Steedman did good work on this line. Prominent Citizens Called on Conington. Represent decided Union sentiment.

12th

Went over river & took Cars for Athens - thence started in buggy with Theodore Butler for Columbus. Stopped all night at Lancaster.

13th

Got home before noon. Conington went to Cin. to lay report of Military Council at Philippi before M^r Clifton Surge on advance on Staunton.

14th

I am Compelled to entertain strong suspicions that the ultimate purpose of democratic politicians who now manifest patriotism is not Commendable &c. I am afraid M^r Clifton is a sympathizer or a servant.

Sat. June 15, 61

Wrote first of a series of articles for State Journal exposing and defending Governor. The whole administration is yet embarrassed by Hood & Conington.

15th

Important Movements foreshadowed. Troops ordered from Camp Dennison & from Jonesville to frontier. Preparations for a suspected movement of Confederates into Western Va.

17th

Had Conversation with Dennison that Blair was the man of the Cabinet who demanded the re-inforcement of Sumter. B threatened to resign. His father couldn't persuade him to hold quiet. Sumter provisioned.

21

Staff reorganized. Hood now only in the way.

22nd

Visited Camp Dennison. Dined at Gen. Cox headquarters.

Sunday 23^d

On visit to Cinti. to attend to interests
of State affected by misrepresentations of newspa-
pers. Commercial and Gazette both misrepresent
both Secunism acts and motives. Find Gazette
disposed to be just. Commercial very satisfactory.
Have prepared Card for Commercial & have
arranged for several articles in Gazette. Public
feeling here is very bitter against Secunism.
Huge lies are current -

24th

My Card appeared in Commercial. Evening
Times attacked me personally. I am confi-
dent that J. M. Dickerson & Comins & Burns
on Mr. Clellens staff have been two-faced: have
misrepresented the State and its Governor -

26th

Secunism well pleased with my Cinti. know-
agement. Papers are copying my articles in
Gazette. The Commercial Card effectually
relieves Secunism of the Comp Secunism
misunderstanding by which he was held re-
sponsible for incompetent Federal officers.

Friday June 28th

Haleott was tendered J.M. Gen. ship. He declined in a handsome letter to Gov. Evidences of good done by Cincinnati birth accumulate.

Sunday July 7th

Discussion Common upon probability of a Military Govt. Popular resistance. Reliance upon general intelligence. That reliance a power in the war against rebellion.

8th

Began statement of what Ohio has done in the war -

9th

The fitting out of Antilley is arrested for the want of money to buy horses -

10th

M.H. Swoyne & Julius J. Wood in Wash. A.C. = Counts &c to be adjusted with U.S.

11th

Sent Mr. Tribune, Charles Hewes, Cincinnati papers authors article - "What Ohio has done in the war"

Friday July 12th

Papers re-publishing my Camp Sherman article.

13th

"What Ohio has done in the war?" an Ed. in Ohio State Journal. It will be printed in a Circular sent Congressmen, Governors etc.

15th

Sinking fund Commissioners returned from N.Y. Loan not negotiated. They refused to act upon letters from Gov. & President (A. P. Stone) There is likely to be financial trouble.

16th

Heard Conversation last night between Gov. & C. Belmont that Bond Commrs would refuse money for the war - would decline efforts for a loan by advertising. Breakers ahead in such case. War movement paralyzed, our people indignant, & not likely to push the responsibility where it belongs.

17th

Article on Ohio & the war going the rounds widely. Having been dispatching letters urging app't A. H. Swaine as Asst. Judge U.S. Supreme Court -

Thursday July 18th

Gov. left for Washington, to get through a law paying the Ohio troops in West Va. He expects to overhaul matters generally bet. State & Gen Govts.

19th

Saw a letter to-day from J. M. Ashley to Rep. Cent. Com. about State Convention. He wants in Repub. but Union.

22^d

Perrible summons from Wash^{gton}.

24th

Gov. returned. Gen Fremont reviewed troops at Camp Chase, Mrs R. there.

25th

Governor had no difficulty in getting Senators & Reps to aid him in Washington. Supported by Swayne & Wolcott and Chase he got 33 Regts of Infantry - 7 Bats of Art - 12 Compd Cavalry in 3 years service, and a law passed to cover Ohio expenses on State account in Fed. Service ~~It~~ solves the financial problem.

Frieday July 26th

Repub. Ex. Com. met yesterday. General discussion on policy. I insisted in conversation with members that it would not do to ignore the past & condemn the present by attempting to conciliate a few men who are more democratic than patriotic. Geo. M. Parsons urged a surrender, W. P. Bascom opposed. The Committee resolved to surrender. R. M. Taylor on Rep side & James Haddock Smith on Dem. side leading monogens.

27th -

Gov. reported some events of visit to Washington, after Bull Run. Was sent for at Cabinet meeting. Cabinet depressed. Gen. Scott present & very courteous. Cameron very deferential to Scott. Sewall appeared overwhelmed. Vigor determined upon. Offers of troops to be promptly accepted. Governor hastened from City to organize new Regts in Ohio.

Heard Gen. Hill's statement about Oakland yesterday. There was decided incompatibility of "stuffs" in West Va.

Monday July 29th

12th & 2nd Ohio Regts returned. Festival &c -
Much interest to see the Ohio men who have been
in Bull Run Battle & hear their reports, personal
to themselves -

30th

Gov. wrote Secy of War asking him to super-
sede Dickerson & Bruns. Sent letter to
Mr. Chellow. with an article in Cin. Commercial.
They are precious recalls I suspect - Gov.
& Buckingham in Council to-day over ap-
pointments.

31st

Col Mr Cook, 12th Ohio, in office to-day. Talks of
Schenck with contempt except as to personal
courage. He delighted a small audience with
big talk about Bull Run.

Visited Camp Chase.

The returned soldiers are very Irish-like,
restless, dissatisfied.

Friday Aug 2nd
Paymaster M^r Dowell at work in State
House with gold. Soldiers free of dissatisfaction.
People abuse their own patriotism by unreasonable
demands. Mourning, mercy is very obvious.

11th
Gen Hill at Camp Chase. Visited him with
Pitt Carpenter, Kelker & Jones. Hill took
Command of Camp last night.

12th
Telegram from McClellan in cipher warning Gov.
not to heed an order from Rosecrans for
50,000 troops. He was instructed to defend.

13th
Saw letter from Halleatt that McClellan
said Scott embarrassed him, and Washington
was in danger.

14th
Wrote a letter from Gov. in answer to a speech
in Convention by H. B. Payne. Controversy
likely to be spirited -

Saturday Aug 17th

John A. Hanley here to-day. He says Chase was more responsible for Bull Run defeat than any other man. He has threatened to resign if Gov. Sept. Continued to receive Rights.

24th

Response to Payne published. Union movement going strength. White feather squad being organized - The necessity for warm fraternal relations bet. State & Fed. Govts supersedes the possibility of a Democratic being Governor. Gov. at Camp Dennison to-day.

28th

Reports show that a party is forming for peace. It discourages enlisting in other ways gives aid & comfort to the enemy.

An article on Ohio Colonels published.

29th

Note out a "Proclamation" from brief hints by dictation. City Council interview with Gov.

Friday Aug 30th

H. D. Gallagher Called. He represents Kentucky in danger. I determined to make a letter of warning against "white neg" men & to suggest that the 5th of Sept Convention Call on the people to Celebrate the 17th of Sept in honor of the Constitution.

31st

Last night Denison & Gallagher held Conversation in Library in which Gallagher exposed the fact that Secession was striving to strike a blow in Ky. Embargo diffinest. Fear that farmers would rebel. Denison said he did not fear farmers but did know Secessionists. Secret Societies must be watched, Secret Societies were being formed in Ohio.

Sept 4th

Delegated Coming in for Union Convention. Men of all parties - all shades of past political Complexion - an era in Ohio political history. Many interesting questions suggested as to effect upon future political parties - influences - powers etc -

Thursday Sept 5th

Peoples Convention. Union Party of Ohio inaugurated on east terrace of State House. A significant fact. Republican Party "Cleaned out". Antagonisms repressed & Convention harmonious - David Tod for Gov. a good Union man now with "powerful men" political record. I had the honor to oppose him decidedly. Gross injustice was done Gov. Dennison. It was melancholy to see earnest republicans in the back ground while shrewd compromisers "ran the machine". S. A. Cong presented resolutions (adopted which I wrote) recommending observance of 17th -

37th Birth Day. Father's 66th B. D. on 30th 6th 7th

Conversation with Dennison to day on Convention. He doubts whether radical men will supinely regard the "Conservation" of the Union Convention. Will the Union Party have done its work on election day? Is it for the won life so what then? Dennison makes no complaint of its disregard of him. He is Confident of the future.

Wednesday Sept. 11th

Letter on People's Convention in New York Tribune.
12th

News to night of a victory by Rosecrans over Floyd.

13th

Governor starts for Wash^{nt} - Left instructions for me to write a telegram Congratulating Rose Crans: also a proclamation announcing a fast day, in pursuance Pres's Proe, Sept 29th

14th

Write Fast Day Proe. Sent to papers.

15th

Yll at home with bilious fever.

23^d

Got out trip to office.

Sunday Oct 6

Talked with Gov. about Tod. In his opinion Tod is a weak man. Likely to prove incompetent. Not a thinker. Not an executive man, because not

Monday Oct. 7th

Had a long talk with Gov. He sees no end to war. Thinks it likely to be protracted. Is confident that struggle of Nation but partly developed result sure. Divided Councils at Washth embarrass - no ruling power there. Young men in army seeking their own promotion. West neglected - Rosecrans incompetent. Mitchell vain indiscreet, Anderson prematurely old. Fremont embarrassed. Sherman without ample troops. Meigs unable to supply clothing.

9th

Talked of that Gov. ought to be a Major Gen. He could then set straight many things now out of joint. It is an agreeable state of affairs when a Gov. Commander in Chief of the forces of a State is overruled - out-ranked by a Captain in Hunter's mosters or Commissary Dept. - one of the queer incidents of Civil war - peculiar to the American "system" of "sovereign states"

Thursday Oct 10th

Gov. is of opinion that Chase is opposed to a large army because he looks forward to a separation. Blair & Wells are the men of the Cabinet who urge vigorous fighting.

11th

Reported Chase and Seward have indulged a very plain disagreement.

Gov got tele gram from D.M. Gen that the Treasury is exhausted & overcoats could not be supplied

12th

Mitchell & Anderson and Sherman & Mitchell at Varianee about Movements in Kentucky -

13th

Ultention purpose by Chase, looking toward separation is probably represented in Civ. Com mercile, his suspected as an embarrassment to Govt by breaking confidence in men who are for vigorous prosecution -

Monday November 4th
Went to Cin. Indignation at removal
of Fremont very decided. He may have been
indiscreet, hasty, premature, but he struck
more than one key note, which has wide
spread vibrations.

6th
Agreed with Commercial Gazette for
\$50 per month as Columbus Corres=
pondent -

7th
Gazette proposed to me to go to Wash^{nt}.
as its Correspondent, our reporter for
Western Press Association. Had the
proposition under advisement -

8th
Dennison & Swayne started for Wash^{nt}.
Dennison to be proposed as Maj Gen.

13th
Doubtful about Wash^{nt} Correspondence proposition.
Concluded not to take Sixth position if I go & must
have liberal salary -

Thursday Nov. 14th

Went to Licking reservoir with Col. Helker & Millie.

15th

Returned from reservoir -

16th

An Conversation with Gov. reached talk with Chase after Lincoln's election in which he deplored the general prospect. He thought the Republican Party would be broken up. The dominant party then would be either badly Conservative or badly radical.

18th

To be Librarian five years destroys one's respect for the mass^{of} readers, that's result of my observation & reflection to-day

19th

Swaine returned. Denison proposed as Maj. Gen. McClellan agreed if God Consents. Why? M^c C. did not consult D. when other Brigs outposts were appointed. God's a Democrat. Thereby hangs a tale -

Wednesday Nov. 20th

Swaine told McClellan told him the rebels
had all the time a larger force than he.
When he got ready he should fight, winter
or no winter.

21st

Dove told televe Heward in controversy. Too
in anticipation of "brief authority", exercising
censorship over transportation of papers. He
will be compelled to "give in"

22nd

Gov. returned, says he left with M^cC.
the entire question of Maj or Brig Gen.
Commission.

Sunday 24th

Conversation with Gov on milk operations
just. He wished me to write a TP about
an expedition down Mississippi river. Said M^cC.
intended an attack, naval, on New Orleans.
Wished western troops I would like public attention
directed from Mississippi. Even Pres^t
Lincoln had not been told this purpose.

Monday 25th Nov.

Gov. told me one day when in Washth Lincoln told. "Now Dennison if Jeff. Davis was to get me & I told him all I know, I couldn't give him much information that would be useful to him." Gov. says the Departments are little Governments in themselves.

25th

Wrote article for Cin. Gazette on Miss Effat.
Wrote Chase about Bureau for Documents to the Press.

Sat. Dec 1st

Removal to Washth this winter given up. Gov. Dennison insists upon it that he cannot consent that I should resign till his administration expires.

Dec. 2.

Went to Cin. Explained to Gazette Mr. Chellon's idea about Miss. Effat.
Heard Mr. S. Conway on "John Brown"; Concluded arrangement with Gazette for Correspondence - \$50 per month -

Thursday Dec 3^d -
Gazette doubtful about House Expatt. A.D.
I not inclined to advocate removal of Ohio
troops for a sea voyage -

4th
Returned to Capital on night train.

5th
Gov. Called at Library, where I am Compelled
to spend most of my hours now. Had resolved
to get facts about embassments in
preparation for Nov, before the people
thru J.M. Adj. & Cominsary Reports. I
expected to help J.M. (G.B. Wright) get his
report ready - indeed to prepare historical
part of it

6th
Went to Gov's house with J.M. Gen. discussed
reports & message, Wright to answer insinua-
tions from his Dep't. Adj. Gen. also, Gov.
to refer to facts briefly. Gov. at my suggestion
Concluded to publish Agents reports to him. Aud.
Taylor Complained of by Wright, Had damaged pub-
lic service by future of economy. Gov. to explain.

Saturday Dec. 7th

Spent evening at Gov's House. McClellan's
love for Socrates discussed. Points talked
over for message. Suggested School & Temper-
ance Ho. Cameron & Lincoln imbrued. Gov
thinks Gen. Scott's son-in-law (Scott) dis-
"loyal. Rumored in Washth Mrs Lincoln
had state secrets. McClellan said Lincoln
talks too much.

Sunday 8th

Went to Camp Chase. Heard Garfield
address 42nd Regt. A.M. while he
Commands -

10th

Rumor in town that Dennison is to
be Minister to Russia, Told me as a "sell"
& I "sold" the "seller" by giving it to print -
There is more than a "sell" in it. How
much I cannot now conjecture -

Thursday Dec 12th

Spent evening at Gov's, Talked about Russia. He would go. Mrs S. would be delighted, would adorn the place. Gov. thinks he has a talent for diplomacy. So do I. Gov's management of the war has gone from the Cabinet. Hall-st ought to know what Govt intended. Mrs S. said Seward took too much wine, at a dinner she took with him in Wash^{gton}, Gen. McC, wants meddling with politics. Chase looked to secession, as a final result inevitably. Blair says none of the Cabinet have sense. Seward talks as if he were not responsible. Gov. Morton will not be a Maj Gen. nor will Morris. McClellan against them.

14th

Rumors about Denmark & Russia spreading. Cleveland gives him some notice.

15th

Saw 42nd O.V.I. go off from Camp Chase. Garfield looks forward to a bold career —

Monday. 16th See
Worked on message for Gov. Preparing
historical part about war - Ohio's part.
17th

If the Civil war here brings on war in
Europe, Russia will unite with U.S.
to American Rep. & Russian Empire
will be the great powers of the world.
19th

Brother Henry died to-day at Findlay.
Has 14 years old in October last -
23^d

Returned from funeral of Brother Henry
at Massillon.

24th
Finished Annual report as Librarian
25th

Worked on war part of message - Com-
piling & comparing statements etc.

Friday Dec 27th

Met Gov at his house. My part of work history accepted. Gov. read his message. Said his views on Slavery were the views of the Administration. He had that from the highest authority. He had deliberately determined to oppose Chase's bank note scheme.

28th

Gov. said he & Lincoln first came together on Colonization scheme. Doolittle, Trumbull & Preston King met him in Wash^{ton}

C. E. Cist of Cin. told me to day that S. M. Key rode about Wash^{ton} again, declaring that "Sen. Mc Clellan would resign if the Administration abolished itself".

30th

Worked on message.

Wednesday Jan 1st 1862

Worked with Gov on message. My suggestion that Reports of Agents & Docs illustrating Executive action, should accompany message, will be adopted.

2d

Continued work on message. Urged Gov. to Consider that there should be clear showing of how expenses and the part Ohio had taken in heavy pressing burden. The action of Gov. in arresting money on transit to Pres., in which he was opposed by Asst. Payler & supported by Brewster, will be described.

3

3d

Sent proofs 10th post message to Cincinnati and made arrangements to forward to N.Y. Preface.

4th

Worked with Gov on proof revision message. Suggested the analysis he gives & recommendation on expenses of Asylum —

Sunday Jan 5, 1862

Made abstract of Mr. L. A. Gen's reports
for Press. Rodney Mason wrote Chief post-
historical paragraphs in Adj't Gen's Report.
Suggested to Legislators propriety of Gov. de-
livering Message in person. It ought to be
the Custom.

8th

Legislature Convened. Begon Correspondence
for Gazette; relinquishing on Commercial

9th

Gov. S. requested me to forewarn, in
Correspondence that his Message on
Contraband indicates the policy of Lincoln.

Have been spoken earnestly by
many friends about Lilmy. Do not believe
Gov will appoint me, but it will do
no harm to show him that my influential
men deprecate a change. Gov knows I
bitterly opposed his nomination. Auditor Tyler,
his friend, is my enemy.

Friday 10th

Res. of inquiring in Senate on Dennison.
He counts investigation and defies his
enemies to do him harm.

11th

Assisted Dennison to get in Special
Message in answer to Res. of inquiring.

Sunday 12th

Note Lecture for Wiley (Odd Fellows) cele-
bration, Jan 16th.

Monday Jan 12th

Pod inaugurated. The inaugural that of
a man without liberal, large-minded
views. a man inclined to be a demo-
gogue who indulges his inclination. His
reference to increase of salaries - to Dennison
was "bunkum".

14th

Friends saw Pod. He is in favor of notation. He thinks
that in two weeks any man can make himself thor-
oughly acquainted with all the duties of Librarian.
Hambrough of Springfield likely to be my successor.

Wednesday Jan 15th

Gov. S. going to Washington to-morrow. Prob-
bly that he will be given important office.
Rumors of breaks in the Cabinet.

16th

Cameron goes out Cabinet. McClellan this
Chique, in my judgment, at bottom of the
Change. If it be proven to have been because
Cameron was against regulars in preference to
Volunteers, Cameron has made a big point -

17th

Lectured last night at Odd Fellows Celebration,
Wells River.

18th

Prepared list of Newspapers &c for Senator
Sherman as a basis for distribution of Docs.
from Congress.

Impressions Confirmed that Gov
has determined on a new Librarian. I would
not accept the place with any obligation
to remain longer than the summer. I desire
more active employment. Am looking for
a County paper -

Wednesday Jan 28th

Senators General, Monroe & others steps Clarke,
West, Riley & others have been told on Library. A
strong protest from Leg. sent in. No use.

Jan. 30th

Gov. Dennison returned. Is not a Candidate
for U.S. Senate. Thinks Wade ought to be
re-elected. He reports that his visit to Capitol
was timely. There were indications looking
disquiet concerning McClellan. Gen W^d
Dowell made Center of the opposition.

31st

Dennison reports that he talked with Blair,
P. M. Gen, with Stanton, with Sherman, Wilson
& Coolidge about McClellan. & assured
them M^d C was confident he had rebels in
a vice. Must not know a gun on Patomac.
M^d C sure victory is already won. Sander
not approved. M^d determined on his own
plan. & by before 22^d of Feb. events
will astound the Country.

Sunday Feb 20 '62

Note for Cin Gazette biographic notice of
James Haddock Smith, who died last
month aged 39.

30.62

Pod paid 12th visit to Library. Am assured he has
determined on Librarian. Had Consultation
with Printing Com. on Supervisors. Suggested
several modifications of law to prevent &
correct abuses.

5th

Note Gazette privately on Dennis's Convec-
tions about Mr Clellow.

7th

News that Mr Clellow is superseded. Rec'd
with favor in Leg. People are losing confidence
his advisers are bad. Rec'd S.S. Cox's speech.
When Mr Clellow is required to defend him-
self thro P.M. Key by means of Sam. Cox
there's something rotten somewhere —

Monday Feb 10th

Rather who come Saturday went to Camp Chase. Gov S. called. Said he heard many things against McChellan in Civ. Association with Leofocas injured him. Impatience of people hard to restrain. I spoke of making a history of Ohio's part in the war.

11th

Influences at work which expose Cobwebs of many kinds. Auditor Taylor to be tried as a power behind the throne. Legislators suspect that demagogues are endeavoring to Control the State. It is true. Monroe of course doubtful as a Trade Man. He represents a power on the Reserve which will show itself in Senatorial Councils.

13th

Problers Catalogue of American Books published in London has "Easy Name" in Biography. Some student may laboring endeavor to discover "Easy". This story was widely published in England I trust may relieve the inquiry.

Friday 14th
Senatorial Caucus last night. Wade
will be elected -

17th
News of the taking of Fort Donnellson. Jubilee
in the State House. illumination.

19th
Am considering proposition to go to
Springfield & take charge of "Republic"
bi-weekly & weekly.

21st
Dennison says Sevoque told him politicians
for the next Pres. must be a Democrat.
The Ohio game to be played. Earnest
men are ~~then~~ to be in a fierce
struggle. Chase sees it.

22nd
Talked with Dennison. Thinks I had
better go to Springfield. Will secure
pecuniary aid, if I need it. Says I
have the power to command influence &
should use it -

Sunday Feb 23^d

Swaine sent for me yesterday on Senatorial question, was anxious about Trade. Said Stanton desired him re-elected, but said his election would send the Union Party to the devil. So note it he if not would go at the head of it.

26th

on the Senatorial question hangs in a great degree the future of what the Republican Party ought to be. Rebellion Crushed - peace restored & the Union Party will be without the influence necessary to hold it together.

27th

Senatorial deadlock. Congress foiled because Union factions distrust each other. Have been invited by Senator Sumner "el to consider proposition to buy Dayton Journal.

Friday 28th Feb.

Talked with Sumner. Thanks his Confis-
Cation plan will be adopted in Congress.
Opposes Sumner's. Declares it absurd.

People expect hourly to hear of a Pato
more advance. That New Orleans has
been taken.

March 1st 1862

Sent him the New York Father's
Model for improvement in Plows

2^d

Visited Cincinnati to talk over news
paper enterprise. Talked about Stanton's
restrictions on press, in Gazette office.
Waited till after midnight to see Com-
mercials Specials, and Patrons
advance being expected. "Distrust
of Mr. Chellor's Capacity openly expres-
sed." See no chance in Cin. for an
advantageous newspaper engagement

Tuesday March 4th
Went to Springfield. Well pleased with
prospects in Republic office Smith City.
Can buy for \$5000.

9th
Mr. Monroes evacuated. McClellan to
be in trouble.

12th
Congress on Senator last night did not
nominate? Wife's birthday. 36 years old.

13th
Wrote to Springfield accepting proposition
for purchase of office. S. G. Harbough
appointed by successor in Albany to
date from 24th inst.

14th
People indignant over McClellan. Beginning
to believe the man is known by the company
he keeps.

Sunday - 15th March
My departure from Libby has some noted
in Citi & other papers.

Election of Senator
this winter doubtful. Wade's prospects
not brightening. His personal character
checks enthusiasm. Good to fight
in a minority but not good to lead
in a majority.

17th
Sumner who went to Wash^{ton} on account
of Mr. Cullow returned. Lincoln & S.
resisted clamor against him till
McC got into the field. I Confident
he will prove military skill. but
acknowledges great Chopin over Man
assas.

19th
Wade's course failed because Wade men
unwise, joining filibusters instead of
keeping a solid column.

Thursday March 20
Went to Springfield, to arrange preliminary
matters for removal.

28th
Packed up household goods. Put them
in Car. Started for Springfield with wife,
Mary and Mattie.

April 20
Arrived at Springfield afternoon of March
29th - Goods arrived Monday. Begun to
unpack & move in King House on Twin
St., west of Center. Yesterday got out
first paper. Reception cheering - all
things appear favorable. Emily, Jess
& Annie came over in Cars.

7th
Published Anniversary article on Settlement
of Ohio.

Columns of paper must
hereafter chiefly represent truths &c -

Monday April 14
Published anniversary article on Rebellion

Friday 16 May

Accepted invitation to address Lit. Socie-
ties Marietta College.

18th
Visited Cin. Had photograph taken. Attended
Anniversary Session O.S. P. Gen. Ass. In
Buffield - Weary.

25th
Accepted invitation to deliver Eulogy
on Lorin Andrews at Ohio Teachers'
Assn. Mt. Vernon July 5th.

June 16th
Proposed James Monroe as School Comm^{tee}

25th
Lectured at Marietta. "The Lesson of Ohio's Prospects"
has awarded degree of "A.M." in empty

38th Birth day.

Sat Sept 6th

14th
Father Come to Springfield with
Horses & Wagon -

20th
Sixth Child born: girl: King House
Main St-

Oct 13th
Campaign in 7th Cong. District over. I Con-
voked the County. Made speeches in nearly
every Township. Argued that "Secession"
is the twin of Secession - Liamese indeed -

14th
Cox election to Congress by apathy, Treachery
and fraud in Franklin County - State
ticket defeated as it deserved to be. Where's
the Union Party?

1862

Oct 23^d

Administration still hewing between
two opinions. I have sometimes thought the
President might be likened to a boy carrying a
big basket of eggs. Could not let go his
basket to unbutton his breeches - was in
for distress from a meeting to unite -
stood doing nothing - What shall I do

The Cabinet it strikes me is like
a Collection of powerful chemicals.
- each positive, sharp, individual
- but thrown together neutralise each
other & the result is an infidid
mess.

Nov. 7th

Had recently on article in Republic
entitled "Whither" which has attracted
much attention and been widely
Copied -

Sat. 8th Nov

Visited Columbus, Had Conversation
with Dennison. Probable Chase will
be a Candidate for Senator. Dennison
now thinks McClellan an instrument
of intrigue. Is ill pleased with Adminis-
tration, Says it is a failure, but Lincoln
is head & shoulders above all the men
about him. Democrats will unite to
postpone election of Senator.

9th

Revised address at Marietta for our
article "60 years of Ohio"

10th

Dennison tells me Hallock said
it is impossible to restore the Union
by war. Hodsworth invariably de-
nounces the "strategy" of McClellan. The
Cabinet is radically divided.

11th

McClellan relieved, Loyal men rejoiced.

Nov 18th

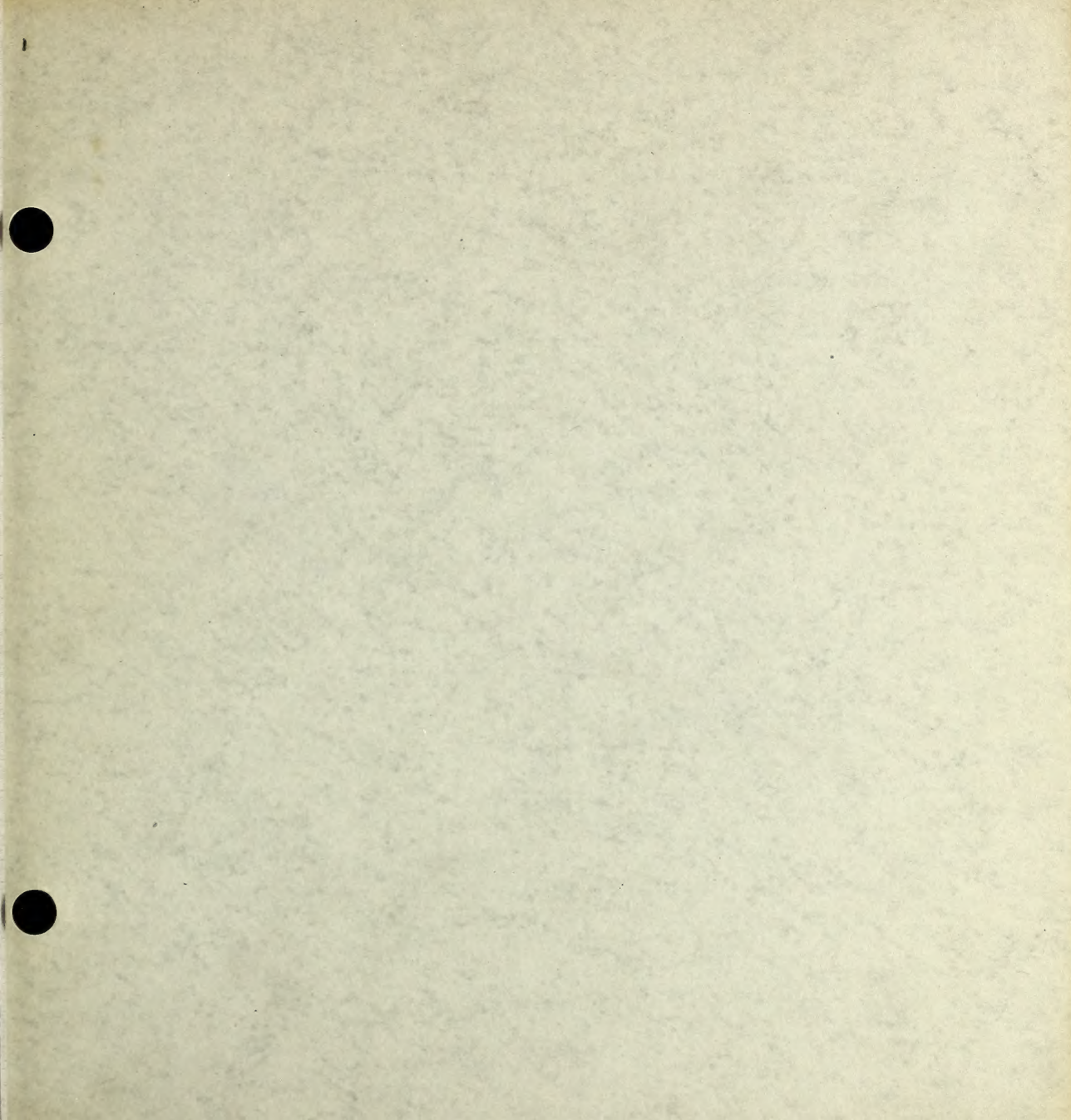
Visited Cincinnati, talked with S. R. Reed
of Gazette. His impression that if Brunn-
side meets disaster the Country is de-
stroyed. There can be no peace. The
action of the Democracy will enable
the rebels to break the Union.

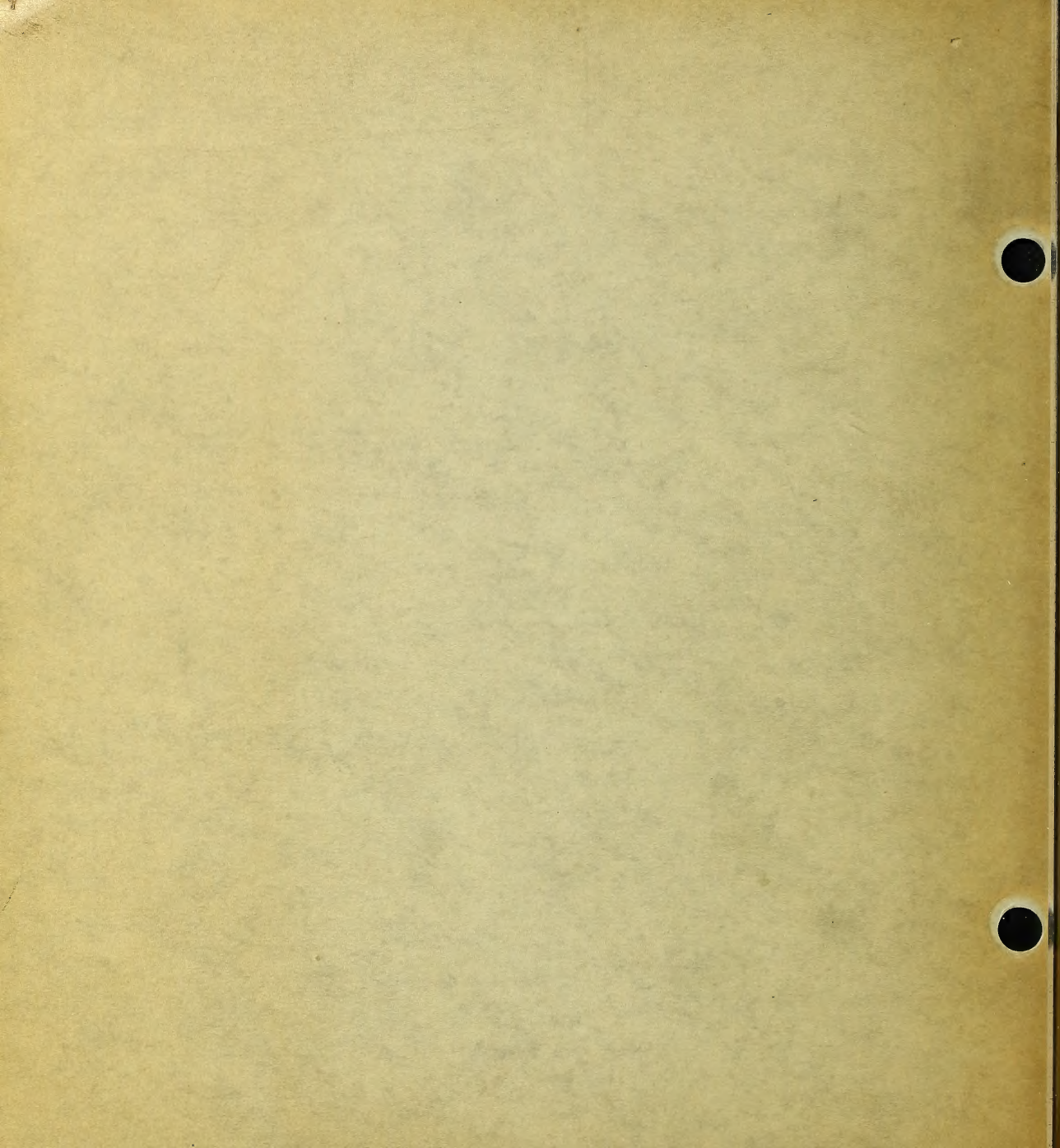
22^d

Vallandigham at Butterworth Jubilee
in City Hall. His impudence is tolerated
because the Administration is weak & too
pretended "Democracy". His party hopes
that in disaster to Brunnside, it may
see the opportunity for compromise,
and a national party to preserve
Slavery.

✓ Washington City.
Monday Eve. Nov 26th - 1863

Called on Sec Chase. Cordially
received. Talked about War -
Chase despondent. Says it is no
use for him to struggle with pres-
ent administration. Mr Lincoln
purposeless - Firm only from his
inertia. Generous, Kind, in some
regards wise, but as a precocious
child - Has no practical power.
No Cabinet Meeting for 2 years,
for Counsel, Meetings for jokes.
Unless people recover from in-
fatuation of Confidence in Lin-
coln, bankruptcy inevitable.
Perhaps that to come because
we deserve to suffer for parti-
cipation in Slavery - must be
a change at White House.







Poko Press

P.O. Box 14766, Columbus, Ohio 43214



NEWLY REVEALED LINCOLN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

HOW YOUNG OHIOAN SAVED LINCOLN IN 1861

WILLIAM T. COGGESHALL, 36-year-old Ohio State Journal reporter, state librarian, and governor's secretary, met Lincoln when the President-elect's train arrived in Columbus, Ohio, on Wednesday, February 13, 1861; escorted him to speak before the Ohio Legislature; and was asked by Lincoln to join the presidential train. "With you with me I shall go safely," Lincoln said. The President knew of attempts on his life but felt safe with young Coggeshall.

Lincoln knew he was hated by some. That there were meetings of Southern businessmen and laborers-for-hire who were setting the stage to have him killed.

The train chugged on to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Buffalo, Albany, New York City, Trenton, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg with Lincoln speaking to the public and Coggeshall eyeing the crowds.

Before leaving Harrisburg, Lincoln learned of an assassination plot in Baltimore, decided to pass through that city hours early, at night, and briefed Coggeshall.

Near Harrisburg a bomb was thrust into the president's train. Coggeshall discovered it, threw it out of the train car and saved Lincoln by seconds. They swore each other to secrecy, the attempt not to be told until after Lincoln's death. "I'll only tell my wife," Coggeshall said.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

COLONEL COGGESHALL became U. S. Minister to Ecuador, endured religious persecution there and accidentally found buried treasure.

MARY, his wife, by night drove a horsedrawn buggy to smuggle the first absentee ballots to soldiers.

JESSIE, 15-year-old daughter, was Coggeshall's secretary and hostess in Ecuador. She wrote lively letters, endured religious persecution, was buried in her wedding gown.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION was the daughter whom he named for the freedom document. She was called Prockie. She became a concert singer.

